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## Civil Defense Relocation Plan Said to Be Dropped

WASHINGTON, March 3 (UPI) — The Government has quietly shelved a controversial plan to evacuate whole cities to rural areas in the event of nuclear war, according to officials of the nation's civil defense agency.

The relocation plan had led to stiff resistance around the nation, with several states and cities rejecting the notion that such large-scale evacuations were feasible. Officials had derided it as unworkable and unrealistic.

Officials of the Federal Emergency Management Agency acknowledged last week that the plan had been largely eliminated. They were asked about the program after a former intelligence official said in an interview that budget cuts had killed it anyway.

"The crisis relocation planning has been abandoned, no question about it," said Russell Cianahan, an emergency agency spokesman, who added that the plan's designation, C.R.P., for Crisis Relocation Plan, had not been used by agency officials for three years.

### A Civil Defense Publication

Peter Dyke of Santa Fe, N.M., who retired in 1975 after 25 years with the Central Intelligence Agency and now publishes The Front Line, a clearing-house publication for information on civil defense against nuclear attack, said last week that the nuclear defense signaled the end of the plan.

Reaching to Mr. Dyke's comments, Mr. Cianahan agreed that the relocation plan had been abandoned, but asserted that changes in agency plans, not budget cuts, had forced a new emphasis on planning to handle a wide range of natural and technological disasters, such as floods, earthquakes, nuclear accidents and chemical spills, rather than nuclear war.

"We have changed emphasis on what needs to be done in dealing with problems of managing emergencies of every kind," Mr. Cianahan said. The emphasis now is a "well-trained cadre

of emergency professionals" at the local, state and national level to handle crises.

He said evacuation remained an option in the crisis manager's "tool kit" but was not the agency's primary thrust.

### Rejected by 120 Jurisdictions

Mr. Dyke said the evacuation plan, which has been criticized as unworkable and destabilizing, and also as propaganda for the idea that nuclear war can be survived, had been rejected by about 120 jurisdictions representing 90 million people.

"Protection of the population seems now to have been relegated, whether consciously or not, to the highly controversial Strategic Defense Initiative, or Star Wars, program," said Mr. Dyke, who was chairman of a meeting last month in Washington at which the implications of proposed budget cuts on the Federal emergency agency's civil defense program was discussed.

Mr. Dyke said cutting the civil defense program by a third from its current budget of \$181 million, as proposed by the Reagan Administration, also represented a "major shift" in national nuclear defense strategy.

Further expenditures on the plan "would cut into the bone" of other emergency preparedness programs for natural and technological disasters, he contended.

He said that, according to Congressional testimony last year, the Federal Emergency Management Agency had planned to ask for \$345 million for the 1986 fiscal year, followed by yearly appropriations to complete a seven-

year, \$4.2 billion administration program. Agency officials, he said, instead have been allowed by the Office of Management and Budget to request \$119 million.